

Blogs relevant to naval operations/warfare, policy, and innovation are monitored for items of interest. Some items include a brief description. If you would like to recommend a blog site for inclusion, or want to be removed from the list please contact Mike Perron at: robert.m.perron.ctr@navy.mil

Also, please check out the new NWDC Navy Center for Innovation Blog at:

<https://www.nwdc.navy.mil/ncoi/blog/>

February 4, 2013

1. CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY:

A Tale of Three Fires: "In October 2012, the Navy conducted a seemingly unplanned and unrelated flammability test. The test, now much talked about, found that the NWU was not flame resistant, and when set alight would 'burn robustly until consumed.'"

2. CDR SALAMANDER:

Slowly Adjusting to Reality: "As the calendar gets harder to fudge - not to mention the budget, I think we will be seeing more iterations of this - something we have warned you about for years."

Taking the Offense against Defensiveness: "This resonated with me, and I think many of us have been in the same place Peter is. This will also give you some perspective why a highly successful Marine officer at 16-yr and on the LtCol list is leaving active duty."

3. OTHER BLOGS (Rotating, based on relevant content)

AOL DEFENSE:

Navy Will Cancel Maintenance On 23 Ships On Feb. 15; Small Shipyards, Readiness At Risk: "The Feb. 15 deadline doesn't only affect ships, but it affects them worse than the rest of the armed forces. The date originally shows up in Deputy Secretary of Defense Ash Carter's January 10 memo, which ordered the department to prepare for the possibility both of sequestration -- the automatic cuts -- and of a year-long extension of the current continuing resolution."

ARES:

DARPA's Phoenix Would Harvest Dead Satellites: "DARPA is looking to dramatically reduce the cost, and risk, of launching communications satellites into geosynchronous orbit by instead removing and reusing antennas from retired spacecraft in graveyard orbit."

AVIATION WEEK:

Upgraded LCS Starts Certification Trials: "While the Navy was clear about plans to build the first two LCS vessels as 'operational research-and-developmental' ships, the brass did not effectively communicate this outside the Pentagon, says Vice Adm. Richard Hunt, who heads the LCS council of service admirals charged with shepherding USS Freedom to deployment and the program to success."

BUSINESS INSIDER:

Leon Panetta Goes Off: Letting The Sequester Happen Would Be 'Shameful And Irresponsible': "'If sequester goes into effect and we have to do the kind of cuts that will go right at readiness, right at maintenance, right at training, we are gonna weaken the United States and make it much more difficult for us to respond to the crises in the world.'"

THE DEW LINE:

[Iran's new Qaher-313 stealth fighter: No, it's not April fools day](#): “The configuration looks a lot like the bizarre illegitimate love child of a Have Blue and Boeing Bird of Prey with some added canards.”

[Thunderbirds set for 2015 re-launch](#): “Good news today for people of a certain age (okay, and children too): there's going to be a new series of 'Thunderbirds' produced for UK channel ITV.”

INTERCEPTS (Defense News):

[Chinese Navy: Operational Challenge or Potential Partner?](#): “I urge you all to WATCH THE VIDEO of the USNI/AFCEA West 2013 conference panel: ‘Chinese Navy: Operational Challenge or Potential Partner?’ Particularly, Toshi Yoshihara at 38:20.” *(Links to embedded video – ed.)*

FOREIGN POLICY:

[Capitol Indifference](#): “Washington ignores Russia's obsession with America at its own peril.”

NEW YORK TIMES AT WAR:

[Veterans in College: Share Your Stories](#): “Only last month, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced a partnership with the National Student Clearinghouse and the Student Veterans of America to collect and analyze data on veterans in school, with an eye to determining if they are succeeding — or failing — and why.”

THE NAVAL DIPLOMAT:

[Missile Defense's Real Enemy: Math](#): “Think about it — could we someday see a scenario where American forces at sea with a fixed amount of defensive countermeasures facing an enemy with large numbers of cruise and ballistic weapons that have the potential to simply overwhelm them? Could a potential adversary fire off older weapons that are not as accurate, causing a defensive response that exhausts all available missile interceptors so more advanced weapons with better accuracy can deliver the crushing blow?”

NAVAL DRONES:

[LCS Program Office for Unmanned Systems in the News](#): “Capt Ashton discusses some of the stand-off unmanned mine countermeasures capabilities under development for the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) including the Unmanned Influence Sweep System (UISS) and the Knifefish UUV.” *(Includes embedded YouTube video – ed.)*